

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of improving an hydraulic binder based coating formulation for coating a building board having a first and second surface, the method comprising:
adding to said hydraulic binder a dewatering agent and water, said dewatering agent comprising fly ash, wherein the fly ash further comprises particles having two components with a first larger size component of particles of a 100 micron maximum size in an amount of about 10 to 60 wt% of the formulation based on total dry ingredients and a second smaller size component of particles of about a 10 micron maximum size in an amount of about 5 to 30 wt.% of the formulation based on the total dry ingredients, such that after application of a thin slurry of said formulation to said first surface of said building board, said slurry is dewatered through the building board to said second surface of said building board, wherein the thin slurry is 0.1 to 10 mm thick.
2. (Previously presented) -The method according to Claim 1, wherein the dewatering agent is provided in a sufficient quantity to maintain porosity in the slurry during dewatering.
3. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the dewatering agent is a particulate material.
4. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the dewatering agent further includes alumina trihydrate, silica flour, cenospheres.
5. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the slurry has a water content of up to 50%.
6. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the coating includes fibres.
7. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the hydraulic binder used in the coating is selected from the group consisting of white, grey or pigmented cements, hydraulic limes or mixtures thereof.

8. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the hydraulic binder used in the coating is selected from the group consisting of Portland cement, blended cements, blast furnace slag, pozzolans, masonry cement, oil well cement, natural cement, alumina cement, expansive cements and mixtures thereof.

9. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the binder in the formulation is between 10 and 50 wt.% based on total dry weight.

10-11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the dewatering agent includes a coarse fraction fly ash portion having a particle size diameter greater than 100 microns.

13-15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein dewatering occurs in at least about 120 seconds or less.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the slurry cures in at least about 48 hours.

18. (Currently Amended) A method of improving an hydraulic binder based coating formulation for coating a building product having a first and second surface, the method comprising:

adding to said hydraulic binder a dewatering agent and water, said dewatering agent comprising fly ash, wherein the fly ash particles having two components with a first larger size component of particles of greater than 100 microns and a second size component of particles of about a 10 micron maximum size in an amount of about 5 to 30 wt.% of the formulation based on total dry ingredients, such that after application of a thin slurry of said formulation to said first surface of said building product, said slurry is dewatered through the building product to the second surface of said building product, wherein the thin slurry is 0.1 to 10 mm thick.

19. (Currently Amended) A method of improving an hydraulic binder based coating formulation for coating a building product, the method comprising:

adding to said binder a dewatering agent and water, said dewatering agent comprising fly ash particles having two components with a first larger size component of particles of greater than 100 microns and a second size component of particles of about a 10 micron maximum size in an amount of about 5 to 30 wt.% of the formulation based on total dry ingredients, such that after application of a thin slurry of said formulation to said building product, said slurry can be dewatered through the building product, wherein the thin slurry is 0.1 to 10 mm thick.

20. (Currently Amended) A method of improving an hydraulic binder based coating formulation for coating a building product, the method comprising:

adding to said hydraulic binder a dewatering agent and water, said dewatering agent comprising fly ash particles having two components with a first larger size component of particles of about a 100 micron maximum size in an amount of about 10 to 60 wt.% of the formulation based on total dry ingredients and a second smaller size component of particles of about a 10 micron maximum size in an amount of about 5 to 30 wt.% of the formulation based on the total dry ingredients, such that after application of a thin slurry of said formulation to said building product, said slurry is dewatered through the building product in at least about 120 seconds or less.

21-24. (Canceled)